

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9981

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 2947

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y-MRN 2947 VICE 29947

FOR SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.), PFOR, US

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REF: MONROVIA 2853, STATE 97581

1. I HAVE JUST RECEIVED FROM E. REGINALD TOWNSEND, GOL'S MINISTER
OF STATE FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS, THE FOLLOWING:

QTE

DEAR AMBASSADOR CARTER:

BECAUSE OF THE URGENCY AND IMPORTANCE OF THE ATTACHED MESSAGE
WHICH PRESIDENT TOLBERT IS SENDING TO PRESIDENT FORD, I SHALL
BE MOST GRATEFUL WERE YOU TO BE KIND ENOUGH TO COOPERATE WITH US
BY HAVING IT CABLED OFF THROUGH YOUR MISSION'S FACILITIES TO
ENSURE THAT IT REACHES ITS HIGH DESTINATION. UNQTE.

2. PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S MESSAGE FOLLOWS:

QTE

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PRESIDENT GERALD FORD

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON DC

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I ACKNOWLEDGE WITH APPRECIATION YOUR VERY KIND MESSAGE IN WHICH YOU INDICATED THE IMPORTANCE WHICH YOU ATTACH TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT TO LIBERIA AND TO AFRICA. NOT ONLY DO I WELCOME THIS MOST TIMELY VISIT WHICH OFFERS YOUR GOVERNMENT A FRESH OPPORTUNITY TO ASSESS AT A HIGH LEVEL THE UNFOLDING CRISIS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, BUT I AM LOOKING FORWARD WITH SOME ANTICIPATION FOR THE POSSIBILITIES IT WILL AFFORD OUR TWO COUNTRIES TO ADD NEWER DIMENSIONS TO A RELATIONSHIP UNIQUE IN THE ANNALS OF AMERICAN AFRICAN COLLABORATION. I AM IMMENSELY HEARTENED TO LEARN OF THE RENEWED DISPOSITION OF YOUR COUNTRY TO STRENGTHEN ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH AFRICA AT THIS CRUCIAL STAGE OF THE STRUGGLE TO ELIMINATE COLONIALISM, RACIALISM AND OTHER FORMS OF INJUSTICES AND INDIGNITIES FROM THE AFRICAN CONTINENT. FOR I HAVE REMAINED CONVINCED THAT IN A CRISIS SITUATION OF GLOBAL PROPORTIONS SUCH AS WE NOW HAVE EVOLVING IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, THERE IS A ROLE THAT CAN CONSTRUCTIVELY CONTRIBUTE TO AN ENDURING SOLUTION WHICH HISTORY HAS IMPOSED ON THE UNITED STATES. THIS IS WHY FOLLOWING THE RECENT EVENTS IN ANGOLA, I WROTE TO YOU IN A SIMILAR VEIN AND ALSO CALLED UPON OTHER WESTERN DEMOCRACIES TO ACT DECISIVELY TO AVERT A CRISIS SO THAT MAJORITY RULE AND RACIAL JUSTICE MAY COME TO THE REGION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT CAN ALSO SERVE AS AN OPPORTUNITY OF FURTHERING THE EXCHANGES WHICH WE INITIATED IN WASHINGTON ON OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, I FULLY WELCOME. AND I DO SO THE MORE AT A TIME WHEN AMERICA CELEBRATES TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF EXEMPLARY DEMOCRACY AND CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE, SECURITY AND PROGRESS, AND LIBERIA, WHICH SHARES HISTORICAL AFFINITY WITH AMERICA, IS PRE-OCCUPIED WITH A SUSTAINED AND DEDICATED EFFORT TO BRING SPEEDY AND MEANINGFUL DEVELOPMENT TO ALL OF ITS CITIZENS. THE INGREDIENTS SEEM TRULY ASSEMBLED FOR ADDING NEWER DIMENSIONS TO OUR HISTORIC SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP. I FULLY SHARE YOUR HOPE, MR. PRESIDENT, THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER'S TRIP WILL GENERATE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE AMERICAN AND AFRICAN PEOPLES AT THIS MOMENT WHEN AFRICAN NATIONS ARE MOVING COMMITTEDLY TO ACHIEVE FOR ALL OF THE PEOPLES OF THE CONTINENT
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THAT POLITICAL LIBERTY AND ECONOMIC WELLBEING WITH WHICH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE NOW SO FAMILIAR. WITH SENTIMENTS OF HIGHEST CONSIDERATION AND ESTEEM
SINCERELY,

W. R. TOLBERT, JR. UNQTE.

3. EMBASSY IS TRANSMITTING BY POUCH ABOVE DOCUMENTS IN THE
ORIGINAL.
CARTER

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NNN

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